

Principles For Joint Certifications

As agreed by the informal Working Group on Certification, States Parties intend to use the following principles for joint certification.

Joint certification is when one observation aircraft and its sensors from more than one State Party, or more than one observation aircraft type and its sensors from one or more States Parties are presented for certification in the same location at the same time.

The aim of a joint certification is to realize benefits to States Parties by:

- Reducing the time of the total certification period;
- Reducing travel requirements;
- Eliminating gaps between single certifications;
- Reducing the total time period necessary for unpredictable events.

It is the responsibility of the States Parties wishing to conduct a joint certification to devise a comprehensive framework to ensure all the individual national responsibilities are fulfilled, and to present a plan to the OSCC for scheduling purposes.

While a single certification event is limited to seven days, a joint certification would be limited to a maximum of seven days times the number of observation aircraft being certified. It is anticipated that the actual joint certification plan would be some number of days less than the maximum allowed.

The number of individuals participating in a joint certification shall be in accordance with Annex D, Section I, paragraph 4, which states: "Unless otherwise agreed, the number of individuals shall total no more than 40 and include no more than four from any one State Party." Additional consideration should be given to the total number and distribution of individual participants.